

## **Dean of Admissions Supplemental Guidance for the Class of 2026**

1. The purpose of this guidance is to provide additional, amplifying instructions that will assist the Admissions Board in meeting the guidance provided by the Superintendent to meet the Naval Academy's admissions objectives for the Class of 2026.

a. Within the limits established by Title 10, Department of Defense Directives, SECNAVINST 1531.2D and OPNAVINST 5450.330B, the Admissions Board's function is to identify 1,180 candidates who:

- (1) Are mentally and physically able to participate in rigorous academic, professional, and physical training programs;
- (2) Show high interest in serving their country as professional officers in the Naval Service;
- (3) Are likely, as a group, to choose fields of study that reflects the needs of the Naval Service;
- (4) Show high potential for leadership;
- (5) Appear likely to complete the four-year course and to remain in the service beyond the period of obligated service after commissioning;
- (6) Are of excellent moral character and support enthusiastically the Naval Service Core Values;
- (7) Are at least 17 years of age and must not have passed 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday on July 1 of year of entry;
- (8) Are U. S. citizens;
- (9) Are unmarried, not pregnant, and have no legal obligation to support a child or other individual.

2. The Admissions Board will review the record of each candidate who has an actionable application package, except those identified in paragraph 5 that are sufficiently below the range of normal qualification to not warrant further consideration for admission. Admissions Counselors and Admissions Board members will review each application file, and identify records of candidates that are sufficiently different from the average candidate in (b) (5), (b) (2) [REDACTED], or other factors outlined below to warrant a particularly detailed evaluation by the Board. Records that do not require a detailed Admissions Board review may be assigned a board action upon the concurrence of a designated Board member known as a "quick reviewer." A detailed review of any record is required when a consensus is not reached between the Admissions Counselor/Board member and the quick reviewer. Factors that may warrant a detailed review include:

(b) (5), (b) (2)

3. The Admissions Board will convene each week, usually Thursday. In order for the Admissions Board to be effective and efficient in processing the large volume of applications that are expected, and achieve the most appropriate decision on each individual candidate, it is imperative that members attend every Board meeting. It is the responsibility of each Board member to communicate with the Chairman of the Admissions Board and the Director of Candidate Guidance in advance if they will have difficulty in attending any, or part of any, session. Unexcused or excessive absences from Admissions Board sessions may result in removal from the Admissions Board by the Dean of Admissions. A minimum of nine members, including two civilian professors from different divisions, are required to conduct the Admissions Board unless approved by the Dean of Admissions.

4. It is important that the Board conduct a whole person assessment of each candidate to determine each one's qualification for admission. The Whole Person Multiple (WPM) will be used as a guide for assisting in determining the overall qualification of each candidate, and the Board is specifically tasked to ensure the correct WPM is assigned. For the Admissions Board's purposes, a qualified candidate is defined as a candidate that the Admissions Board determines is eligible to compete for an appointment. Candidates should normally rank in the (b) (5), (b) (2) percent of their secondary school classes. However, candidates whose class rank falls below the (b) (5), (b) (2) (b) (5), (b) (2) or the designated level identified in paragraph 9.a., and who present compensating

qualities, may be considered for qualification. For example, the Admissions Board may give special consideration to candidates who do not rank in the upper (b) (5), (b) (2) of their graduating class at schools that have a high percentage of graduates admitted to four year colleges, but who present good qualifications for admission.

5. It is important that the Admissions Board strongly consider candidates who will ensure that the Brigade of Midshipmen, and ultimately our graduates, are representative of American society and meet the needs of the Naval Service by producing well-rounded officers of Sailors and Marines. To cultivate a set of leaders with legitimacy in the eyes of the nation, it is necessary that the path to leadership in the Navy be visibly open to talented and qualified individuals of diverse backgrounds. The composition of the Class of 2026 should be a diverse cross section of America with the greatest possible variety of backgrounds. This provides an educational experience enhanced by interaction amongst students with different perspectives and life experiences, and in turn raises the level of academic and social discourse, sharpens critical thinking and analytical skills, and prepares students to lead in diverse educational environments. The Board shall, therefore, consider acceptance of candidates from across the nation who bring diverse experiences, such as:

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[REDACTED]

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(b) (5), (b) (2)

6. The objective factors from the candidate application file that are used to calculate the initial whole person multiple (WPM) are listed below. The WPM is a tool that is designed to assist in predicting first year success at the Naval Academy as well as comparing candidates when being considered for offers of appointment from official nominating sources.

(b) (5), (b) (2)

An actionable application file includes parts (a) through (f) above, an essay, personal history, and an interview by a Naval Academy Information Officer (i.e. BGO interview). Application files will not normally be reviewed by the Admissions Board unless these items are submitted. Deviations require approval of the Dean of Admissions.

Candidates may apply for admission to the Class of 2026 whose completed file does not include official college entrance examinations. In order to provide a fair whole person assessment, an additional review of curriculum, transcript, recommendations of school officials and others, school profile, other testing information (i.e. state-wide examinations, AP exams, etc.) and other academic information may be required.

7. The Regional Teams may identify candidates who are not competitive with a WPM less than (b) (5), (b) (2) except those who may be considered for a preparatory program, who do not appear likely to compete successfully for an appointment to the Academy or any of the Naval Academy preparatory programs, so that they may be notified of their status early in the admissions cycle. These application files may be forwarded to a designated quick reviewer, with the supporting

rationale provided in the comments section of the application file, as a quick board record with a recommendation of “not qualified.”

8. The Admissions Board is authorized to adjust a candidate’s computed WPM by as much as (b) (5), (b) (2) when his or her application file presents information which, in the Board’s judgment, warrants a departure from the computed multiple. In adjusting the WPM of any candidate, it is important that the Board be judicious and consistent, and only take such action when it is fully warranted by evidence provided in the record. Adjustments in (b) (5), (b) (2) points will be made only with the concurrence of the Dean of Admissions. When considering the subtler aspects of a candidate’s record, the Board is encouraged to give some reasonable weight to the candidate’s demonstrated leadership, character and motivation to pursue a career in the Naval Service through the U. S. Naval Academy program.

9. The Admissions Board may recommend well rounded candidates be notified early for an offer of appointment when there is enough evidence to warrant such action and when it is clearly to the advantage of to do so in accordance with guidance provided in OPNAVINST 5450.330B. Candidates from this group and those identified in paragraph 5 for whom the Board determines by vote will be considered for a Letters of Assurance (LOA). Candidates who receive a LOA, but who have not yet completed the medical examination or not yet been granted a medical waiver, do not yet have a nomination, have not yet completed a satisfactory Blue and Gold Officer (or equivalent) interview, or have not yet passed their Candidate Fitness Assessment, may be assured that they will receive an offer of appointment if these requirements are satisfactorily completed by 1 March 2022 or 30 days from issuance of the LOA, whichever occurs last.

a. Except by Admissions Board vote, the following minimum WPMs will normally be considered for qualification and early offer of appointment:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Minimum WPM</u>
Qualified	(b) (5), (b) (2)
Early notify	(b) (5), (b) (2)

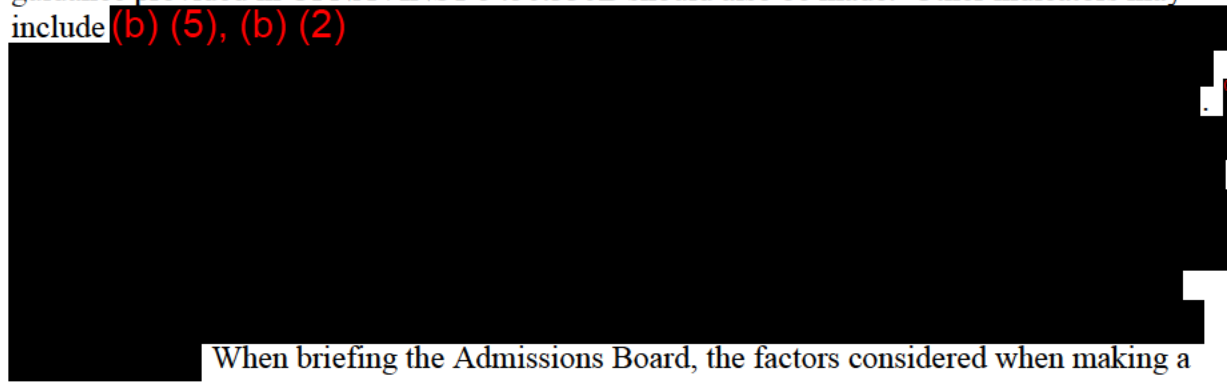
b. The above levels may be adjusted periodically by the Dean of Admissions during the Admission cycle to control class size.

10. In addition to those candidates who are identified by the Admissions Board for the preparatory school in accordance with the Superintendent’s Guidance, the Admissions Board should strongly consider those candidates applying for admission from (b) (5), (b) (2)

[REDACTED]

11. In accordance with the Superintendent’s Guidance, recommendations for a year at NAPS or a civilian preparatory program should be made to those candidates who possess unusual or exceptional talents who would most benefit from an extra year of academic, physical and moral

development. This will require a particularly careful review by the Admissions Board of each applicant's file and will most often require a combination of factors to justify this recommendation. Many of these factors are included in paragraph 5 and consideration of guidance provided in OPNAVINST 5450.330B should also be made. Other indicators may include (b) (5), (b) (2)



When briefing the Admissions Board, the factors considered when making a recommendation for a year of preparation should be included in the Admissions Board member's recommendation.

12. Chief of Naval Personnel Guidance requires young men and women who graduate from the Naval Academy and accessed in to the U.S. Navy graduate with at least 65% technical majors. Therefore, to assist in facilitating this requirement, the Admissions Board will (b) (5), (b) (2)

